

Weather Forecast			
Sunny, windy, cold today; high 26. Cold tonight; low 18. Tomorrow, fair, warmer. (Full report on Page A-2.)			
Yesterday's Temperatures.			
Noon...34	6 p.m....29	11 p.m....24	
2 p.m....33	8 p.m....27	12 a.m....21	
4 p.m....32	10 p.m....26	1 a.m....19	

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Truman Holds 'Profitable' Talks With Murphy; Judge Is Expected To Head Scandal Cleanup Drive

Secret Conferences Hint Action Is Near On Major Project

By George Beveridge
Federal Judge Thomas F. Murphy slipped into the White House for two "highly profitable" talks with President Truman yesterday, but he left with a cloud of secrecy still hanging over any plans the President has for a major governmental "cleanup" project.

The jurist's White House appearance increased speculation that a high-powered, independent action against corrupt officials is in the offing, and the New Yorker did nothing to discredit reports that he at least is the President's choice to handle the job.

As to the conference itself, however, Judge Murphy countered newsmen's questions this way: "The only thing I am at liberty to say is that I saw the President and had a very long talk with him on matters of interest to the country."

Declines Further Comment.
"Any further comment will have to come from him," he declared. "We will still have to go into the subject in order to report on changes that will have to be made to avoid recurrences."

Some Measures In Mind.
Mr. Truman has indicated that he also has measures in mind, some for his own action and some for legislation, to help eliminate corruption in government. But the main interest has centered around Mr. Truman's hint to reporters on Thursday that he might have something to say about an independent cleanup project by the week end. White House Press Secretary Joseph Short served notice this deadline wouldn't be met when he told newsmen they could expect no executive move through today.

President Truman embarked on the yacht Williamsburg at the Naval Gun Factory late yesterday for an overnight cruise on the Potomac River. He will return this afternoon. A few friends accompanied him, but the White House withheld their names.

Persistent reports are that the President's plan might be carried out by some sort of anti-corruption commission, with powers to investigate and possibly to prosecute wrongdoers in Government. Mr. Truman, however, made plain that he wants also a clean bill of health to be given honest officials who do their jobs well.

FBI Intervention Seen.
Some reports have it that the FBI will be called upon to play a key role in any extensive administrative cleanup program. Traditionally, however, Director J. Edgar Hoover has sought to keep the FBI out of any situation which in any way has smacked of politics.

Mr. Truman conferred with Mr. Hoover last week and asked later if that agency might be called on for investigative work—told reporters only that the FBI would continue to do its duty.

Advance information about Judge Murphy's visit had newsmen keeping a close check yesterday on the city's hotels, as well as incoming planes and trains. And the towering, mustached jurist, who gained fame as the prosecutor of Alger Hiss and as a police rackets buster in New York, is a man who stands out in a crowd.

Announced by White House.
But the first official word of the secrecy-shrouded White House meetings came when Mr. Short called reporters in at about 1:15 p.m. and announced:

"Judge Murphy was in to see the President this morning and the President reported he had a

(Continued on Page A-4, Col. 1.)

Original Santa Claus Probably a Bishop

Legend has it that the original Santa Claus was a bishop who lived in Asia Minor and gave gifts anonymously. You can find gifts for your family and friends this Christmas through the "mischief" columns of the Star's classified section. The Star offers more classified selections than the three other Washington newspapers combined.

So use this tremendous showcase when you want to buy or sell toys and other gift items as Christmas approaches. Phone ST. 5000.

Congress to Demand Economy And No Tax Rise, Senators Say

Election-Minded Legislators Will Pare Spending, O'Mahoney and Johnson Predict

By J. A. O'Leary
Two Democratic Senators agreed yesterday that holding down Government spending to avoid another tax boost will be the principal job of the Congressional session which starts January 8.

Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming and Johnson of Colorado both predicted Congress will not go for another increase in taxes, leaving economy as the only alternative.

Senator Johnson said the fact that 1952 is election year will help make an economy drive successful. As chairman of the subcommittee on Defense Appropriations, Senator O'Mahoney has charge of about half the total involved in the current budget, and will, therefore, play an important part in any effort to reduce non-essential expenditures at the coming session.

Senator O'Mahoney said yesterday he welcomes reports that Defense Secretary Lovett "is again vigorously applying the pruning knife to military expenditures." The Senator recalled that a year ago the various branches of the armed services submitted original requests amounting to \$104 billion. The defense budget finally approved by Congress called for approximately \$87 billion. A substantial part of this total was for procurement of heavy weapons and will not be spent until fiscal 1953 or later. At the same time the defense establishment has large allotments from earlier years which will be spent this year and in 1953.

When Congress quit in October preliminary estimates were that

U. N. Rejecting Offers Only 4,000 Prisoners From Reds Until They List Allied Prisoners

Negotiators Also Insist On Better Arrangement For Truce Supervision

By the Associated Press
MUNSAU, Korea, Sunday, Dec. 16.—Allied armistice negotiators are refusing any more bargaining offers until the Reds present information on prisoners and a better truce supervision proposal. The United Nations is standing pat on a demand for a list of

'Deep Freeze' Grips Both Sides in Korea; Snow Jets Doubled. Page A-2

Allied prisoners and where they are held.

"We want all of the men back," said Brig. Gen. William P. Nuckols, U. N. command spokesman. "We don't want some of them to wind up in slave labor camps in China or Korea or anywhere else."

Gen. Nuckols added that there can be no progress on armistice supervision discussions until the Communists offer "a new proposal, better than the one they came up with yesterday."

Another Meeting Set.
He said the only thing the truce negotiators agreed upon yesterday at Panmunjom meetings was to meet again today.

The Communists want agreement now on their proposal for an all-for-all exchange of prisoners. They insist that such things as lists and locations of prisoners are secondary "technical details."

The Reds also have refused to permit International Red Cross inspection of prison camps. More than 100,000 Allied soldiers (the bulk of them South Koreans) are missing or captured—the great majority of them believed captured. Of these, some 11,000 are Americans—but Communists sources indicate that less than 4,000 United States troops could be expected to be returned as prisoners.

Red Proposal Rejected.
The others either were atrocity victims or were battle casualties whose bodies were never found.

Maj. Gen. Howard M. Turner, head of the Allied sub-committee working on a program of armistice supervision, rejected flatly the Reds' six-point proposal yesterday.

"You seek to gain through negotiation what you could not win through fighting," he told them. "... We are not talking as a victor over the vanquished. We are talking military realities on which this armistice must be based."

Effort to Avert Steel Strike Due To Be Made Here

CIO Union Expected To Authorize Tieup Starting January 1

By James Y. Newton
The Government last night was expected to call deadlocked steel negotiators here this week in an effort to head off a possible strike January 1.

This plan was based on the assumption that CIO United Steelworkers tomorrow will authorize a strike of their 1 million members.

CIO President Philip Murray, who also heads the Steelworkers, has called meetings in Pittsburgh tomorrow of the union's 36-man executive board and 170-member wage policy committee.

The meetings were arranged so Mr. Murray could report the status of wage talks with the steel companies. He also will receive any instructions the union leaders may give.

Contracts Expire December 31.
It was generally expected by Federal labor officials that the union will issue a strike call since little or no progress has been made in new contract negotiations.

The present industry-wide contracts expire at midnight December 31 and the steelworkers are free to strike after that.

Government officials, who have described a steel strike as "unthinkable" and "catastrophic" at this stage of the defense program, are gravely concerned.

Federal Mediation Chief Cyrus S. Ching was expected to invite union and company representatives here in an effort to settle the dispute over the union's demand for a "substantial" wage increase and 21 other concessions.

Clyde Mills, Mr. Ching's chief lieutenant who returned yesterday from conferences with the disputants in Pittsburgh, indicated Mr. Ching may be ready tomorrow to say what his next step will be.

Could Be Sent to Board.
It was uncertain whether Mr. Ching will invite officials of all major companies or only those of the United States Steel Corp., giant of the industry. Mr. Murray and his men have concentrated on the negotiations with United States Steel which customarily takes the lead in such matters.

If the attempt to mediate the dispute fails, Mr. Ching then was expected to report the impasse to President Truman. The President then would certify the dispute to the Wage Stabilization Board which would make settlement recommendations provided the parties agreed in advance to accept its findings.

The steel industry has said it cannot give the workers a wage boost unless the Government permits a price increase of corresponding size. Roger L. Putnam, Economic Stabilization Administrator, has told the United States Steel president, Benjamin F. Fairless, that price ceilings will not be raised to reflect any new wage costs.

But the steel industry may get a price increase of undetermined size under the so-called Capetart amendment to the price control law. The amendment requires the Government, in setting ceilings, to allow for nearly all increases in costs incurred by manufacturers from the start of the Korean fighting to last July 26.

Disalle Calls Conference.
Steel prices have not been adjusted to reflect provisions of the Capetart amendment, although adjustments have been made for many other manufacturers.

Along that line, it was learned that Price Director Michael V. Disalle has called steel industry

(See STEEL, Page A-5.)

Senator Capper Improves

TOPEKA, Kans., Dec. 15. (P)—Arthur Capper, former United States senator who has been critically ill following an attack of pneumonia, was reported showing marked improvement tonight.

Colder Weather Forecast in '52 Because of Philippine Volcano

By the Associated Press
RICHMOND, Dec. 15.—A Richmond man, who stumbled upon a gold mine in the sky when he started probing the mysteries of the weather, came forth today with the prediction that it's going to be cooler and colder in Virginia during 1952.

And, says Louis D. Rubin, all because a volcano 8,500 miles away has been blowing its stack.

Mr. Rubin, who's been studying weather habits for 20 years, explains it this way:

The dust which has been spiraling skyward from Hibok-Hibok volcano, on an eruption bender for a week in the Philippines, will float around in the upper air channels about eight to 12 miles high.

This will be too high for rain, snow or descending air to bring the dust down. The result will be a thin veil of dust around the upper air mass that will reflect and absorb the heat rays from the sun. The rays, consequently,



Laborer Saves 4 Small Children In 3 Trips Into Blazing Home

Determined Rescuer Smashes Locked Door, Defies Choking Smoke to Carry Out Babies

Four small children were rescued from a burning bedroom yesterday afternoon by a quick-thinking laborer who made three trips into a smoke-filled house to get them.

The fire occurred in a two-story house at 729 Tenth street S.E. at 2 p.m. while the mother of the children, Mrs. Mary Wheeler, 25, was at a corner store.

Frank B. Dancy, 38, colored, of 2011 Portner place, N.W., employed by a trash collection contractor who lives in the block, was shoveling snow from the sidewalk next door.

"I heard a woman scream," he said. "She pointed to the house next door and I could see smoke coming out the second-story windows—lots of smoke."

"I dropped my shovel and tried the door. It was locked. I put my back to it and pushed as hard as I could. The door broke open."

"I went upstairs and the smoke seemed to be coming out a back room. I opened the door and it almost knocked me over. There were two little boys standing at the door crying."

"I grabbed them and carried them downstairs. The woman who saw the smoke first was shouting that there were two babies still upstairs. I went back up. I felt around and found a crib and picked a baby up and got out of there."

"After I got downstairs a man named Nubby—he's a baker, that's all I know—tried to go up."

Cutter Combs River Flats For 3 Lost Duck Hunters

A Coast Guard cutter out of Washington was searching the Potomac River flats 35 miles south of here last night and early today for three duck hunters reported marooned on a duck blind off Maryland Point.

The report originated during the afternoon when Thomas J. Pou, Jr., of Marshall Hall, Md., told State police he saw a boat, previously occupied by three men, drifting ashore.

Early today, Coast Guard headquarters in Norfolk said no word had been received from the cutter, but added that communications upstream on the Potomac often were faulty.

The Board of Education's Personnel Committee yesterday reached a conclusion in its evaluation of School Supt. Hobart M. Corning but kept silent on what it will report to the full board this week.

The board will meet in special session, probably Tuesday, to hear the report of the Personnel Committee and decide whether to reappoint Dr. Corning.

Adelbert W. Lee, chairman of the Personnel Committee, announced yesterday that the group had "reached a conclusion." He would not say if a definite recommendation was to be made on whether Dr. Corning should be reappointed.

"Groups Work 'Confidential'."
We will present a report on our findings to the Board of Education," Mr. Lee said. "The confidential nature of the committee's work makes it impossible for me to comment further than that."

Dr. Corning's term expires on March 1. The Personnel Committee has been studying his record as superintendent of the city's schools since he first was appointed in 1946. The instructions to the committee by C. Melvin Sharpe, School Board president, were to make an evaluation of Dr. Corning's service and did not specify that a recommendation be included.

It is assumed the committee report, as it now stands, lists the areas in which Dr. Corning has been found lacking and the areas in which his work has been satisfactory.

Corning Attends Meeting.
Five members of the nine-member School Board, besides Mr. Lee, attended yesterday's session of the committee. They were Dr. James A. Gannon, Albert E. Steinem, Dr. Phillip T. Johnson, Mrs. Arcadia Near Phillips and Mrs. James W. Williams. Dr. Johnson and Mr. Steinem are the other two members of Mr. Lee's Personnel Committee.

Dr. Corning also was at the major portion of the meeting. Mr. Lee said the board members questioned Dr. Corning at length during the session.

Great Changes Urged In Prince Georges to Improve County Rule

Chicago Survey Firm Submits 85-Page Report After Lengthy Study

By Gene Goodwin
What Prince Georges County needs, above all, is to be able to govern itself "democratically and efficiently" through a home rule charter-county manager type of government.

That is the most emphatic of several drastic governmental changes recommended for the nearby Maryland county by Public Administration Service of Chicago, the professional survey group which has had Prince Georges under its microscope since last March.

The survey firm's 85-page, printed report, released yesterday, suggests that the present five-man Board of County Commissioners be replaced by a County Council, elected to set policy, and a county manager, appointed by the council to carry out that policy.

The council would pass all local laws now enacted by the General Assembly in Annapolis. Such a system is in effect in neighboring Montgomery County, which adopted its charter in November, 1948.

Report Has Criticisms.
The report is sharply critical in spots, particularly where it discusses the way the county has handled public funds in recent years, but unexpectedly mild in other aspects.

It calls for abolition of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Board of Education, the Board of Supervisors of Elections, and the elective positions of county surveyor and county treasurer.

It urges that the sheriff's office serve only as an agent of the courts and that the sheriff be appointed by the Circuit Court, instead of being elected.

It does not recommend a specific size and salary scale for the county police force, as many observers believed it would. Nor does it advocate that town police forces be done away with, pointing out that "if the county provides adequate police services, the duty of town police is to maintain order in the towns and thus in many instances the towns may be gradually eliminated their police organizations."

Nine Departments Suggested.
It proposes what amounts to a merit system for county employees. It urges that the volunteer fire departments submit complete financial statements to the county and have an annual audit performed, since they receive about

(See SURVEY, Page A-5.)

Pan American Airline Strike Starts in New York

By the Associated Press
NEW YORK (Sunday), Dec. 16.—Ground and flight personnel of Pan American World Airways went out on strike early today at Idlewild and La Guardia airports—jumping the gun on a Monday strike threat by 24 hours.

Pickets appeared at the two New York airports just a few hours after the National Mediation Board at Washington requested the CIO Transport Workers Union to postpone "indefinitely" their strike deadline.

At Idlewild airport, where about 600 persons were waiting for 10 scheduled flights, the company announced over its public address system that all flights would be delayed.

The airline said it was trying to round up supervisory personnel to take over.

iciest Weather Of Season Puts Grasp on D. C.

Here 2 Days, Forecast Says as Officials Confer on Traffic

Stiff winds brought the season's coldest weather into Washington last night. Ice on the streets and highways made driving hazardous.

The Weather Bureau warned that the cold snap will last at least two days, with the mercury expected to drop to 15 above zero by this morning, and to go no higher than 26 during the afternoon.

By tonight, it was expected to get back down to 18. Skies were expected to be sunny most of today.

Although the chill winds dried many of the main thoroughfares yesterday, the less-traveled roads still were expected to be hazardous for motoring. Even the main routes were expected to contain icy spots which might trip up the incautious driver.

New Perspective on Traffic.
Some more snow might come next week. Forecasters mentioned snow in the long-range forecast for Tuesday or Wednesday. However, no repeat performance of the rush-hour traffic tie-up of Friday was expected.

The weather-born traffic snarl of Friday night brought these developments:

Commissioner F. Joseph Donohue, in his weekly radio broadcast, indicated the three-inch snow might bring a new perspective in studying emergency traffic situations. He said he would be surprised if some measures were not taken to "re-assess" the whole problem in the light of Friday's slippery nightmare.

Traffic Director George E. Kenneip said he is calling a special meeting this week of a long-existing committee formed to study snow emergencies in the highway system.

Store Business Catches Up.
Downtown merchants, expecting their biggest pre-Christmas Saturday, saw only a trickle of shoppers in the stores before noon. But the flow reached expected proportions by afternoon.

Mr. Kenneip, his ears still ringing from dozens of caustic telephone calls and personal visits to his home yesterday, laid the blame on the motorist. He declared:

"Tire chains—that would have been the answer. But only a few of the thousands of drivers had or used chains. People will not make themselves ready for such an emergency, it seems."

One of the chief purposes of the proposed meeting, he added, is to get a legal opinion on massing the city's towing trucks to clear the highways of stalled and abandoned vehicles.

3 Inclined to Favor Pool.
He said the idea of pooling all District and privately owned tow trucks for a snow emergency is generally regarded with favor by the committee.

"The first thing," he pointed out, "is to keep the highways open. How can the sand spreaders and snow plows do the most good when they're caught in the middle of a traffic jam themselves?"

Mr. Kenneip said William A. Xanten, Sanitation Department director, and John N. Robertson, highway director, had told him that the best use possible was made of available equipment Friday.

Despite his remarks about chainless motorists, Mr. Kenneip said he sympathized with the driver's plight.

Comments Doctor's Idea.
"There has been no major improvement in car chains for as long as I can recall," he declared. "As it is now, it's a major operation, especially for women, to install chains. And when a crisis has actually hit, it's almost impossible to get into a gas station to have the job done."

He said he liked the idea of one of his visitors yesterday—a physician who is trying to perfect a snap-on-type of chain that can be attached in a few minutes and with a minimum of exertion.

The Board of Trade's second general membership luncheon at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday in the May-

(See WEATHER, Page A-2.)

Featured Reading Inside Today's Star

A NEW LINCOLN PAPER—The official dedication of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church next Thursday will be the occasion for the display of a first-draft of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. It is described and pictured on Page A-29.

HOME IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS—An Army-Air Force collaboration permits some Korea-wounded war veterans from Walter Reed Hospital to go home for Christmas. Accompany Sgt. Angelo Rastello to his home in Columbus, Ga., in picture and story on Page A-12.

GUNS OR BUTTER?—The United States is facing a showdown on what it will sacrifice to gain a workable air supremacy in the air. It will be up to the next Congress. The issues are described in an analysis on Page C-1.

Complete Index, Page A-2
Radio-TV Programs, Pages C-8-9